



THE WATCHDOG



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January 2004

“Warfighter” troops welcomed into the rank of sergeant

Story, photos by Pfc. Alex Licea

“As a noncommissioned officer, I realize that I am a member of a time honored corps, which is known as the backbone of the army.” Those words that embody the creed of the noncommissioned officer were recited and honored as 53 Soldiers were bestowed the rank and responsibilities of sergeant during a Noncommissioned Officer Induction Ceremony held at the Camp Henry Theater on Jan 7.

Soldiers assigned to the 728th Military Police Battalion known as the “Warfighters” were officially welcomed into the NCO corps by their fellow sergeants of the battalion to include the battalion’s top NCO Command Sgt. Maj. Michael T. Sampson.

The ceremony is a time honored military tradition intended to hail new sergeants and inform each newly promoted troop on the duties and

commitments that come with the rank.

“I’m looking forward to using the skills I learned and I’m very motivated,” said Sgt.

Ian Larson, 552nd MP Company.

For the new NCOs the

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Soldiers assigned to the 728th Military Police Battalion recite the Warrior Ethos during the induction of 53 new non-commissioned officers into the battalion. The ceremony welcomes newly promoted NCOs in the long history of the NCO Corps.

Force Protection Information

The U.S. Forces Korea Civil Gathering Hotline is an automated recording, updated daily intended to inform servicemembers and their families across the Korean peninsula about ongoing pro or anti U.S. civil gatherings. When on post simply dial **115**. The hotline informs callers about the dates and times of scheduled civil gathering as well as locations.

If you find yourself in one of these areas and need assistance simply call **112** for the Korean National Police. If in Seoul dial **02-7914-3004** or **3005** for Yongsan’s military police.

If in other area of Korea, soldiers and their families can refer to the emergency phone numbers on the USFK SOFA card.

Reminder: All USFK Personnel and their family members are required to carry a SOFA card at all times. Be safe and use the Buddy System

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day began with an early-morning physical training session which was held at Kelly Field in Camp Walker. The session, which was led by Sampson and included two special guests from the brigade: Sgt Maj. Clayton Frenette, 94th MP Bn operations sergeant major, and "Watchdog Six" himself Col. Peter M. Champagne, 8th MP Bde commander. Both joined the junior NCOs in a number of muscular and cardio exercises such as push-ups, abdominal exercises and a 4-mile run across the streets of Daegu.

Soldiers were energetic and motivated as they concluded their morning work-out with the singing of the "Watchdog" song.

Once Soldiers collected their thoughts, a noncommissioned officer professional development conference on leadership which was conducted by the brigade commander.



Soldiers conduct side-straddle hops famously known as "jumping jacks" during the early-morning physical training session

Champagne discussed how noncommissioned officers could develop new leadership skills that would enable them to develop high performing team, squads, platoons and companies.

Using a book called "Developing the leader within you" by John Maxwell, "Watchdog Six" discussed how leaders could develop vision, positive attitudes, self-discipline, problem solving skills, prioritize work and develop their Soldiers.

The development of leaders and Soldiers is one of the Brigade top five priorities. For the full-bird colonel, it was a true thrill to receive the invitation to attend the "Warfighter" NCOs induction ceremony and pass on some of the leadership lesson that he has developed over his



The "Peacekeepers" of the 552nd MP Co go for success during the four-mile run

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26-year military career.

For many of these Soldiers becoming a sergeant is one of the most significant and emotional moments in a military career.

"I have tears in my eyes," said Sgt. Tamika Lane, 57th MP Co. "I have worked very hard for this day."

Once the ceremony began, Soldiers were visibly ready to be inducted into the time-honored tradition of the NCO.

During the ceremony Frenette, a 23-year military veteran and the ceremony's guest speaker, addressed the crowd with a sense of pride and emotion that came through loud and clear.

"We need you sergeants," said Frenette with a passion in his eye. "Through your veins flows the blood of the



Col. Peter M. Champagne, 8th MP Bde commander, discusses "Developing the leader within you" during the NCOPD

American patriot."

"It's our turn, it's your turn," he added.

The ceremony had each person recite the Soldier's creed and had each new enlisted leader hear the Soldier's re-



Sgt Maj. Clayton W. Frenette was the guest speaker for the event

quest, which guides NCOs in the leading of their future troops.



Command Sgt. Maj. Michael T. Sampson, 728th MP Battalion, congratulates Sgt. Hong, Seung-min during the ceremony

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"I want to build my leadership skills," said Korean Augmentation to the United States Army Sgt. Noh, Eun-ho. "I am prepare to gain this valued experience and then help my fellow Soldier."

"I'm ready to lead," added Lane.

The ceremony concluded with each new NCO being award a plaque of the NCO creed and each new sergeant being congratulated by their fellow "Warfighters."

A Safety Message from "Watchdog Six"

By Col. Peter M. Champagne
8th MP Bde Commander

On 19 January 2004, we will celebrate the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., an American holiday celebrating Dr. King's valiant struggle for true equality and our diversity.

To reduce the potential for accidents during this extended training holiday weekend, I expect leaders to conduct safety briefings addressing these common hazards:

- a. Excessive drinking with all the attendant pitfalls.
- b. Risk associated with cold weather and outdoor recreational activities.
- c. Hazards associated with heavy traffic congestion and unpredictable driving practices on Korean roadways.
- d. Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and driving fatigued.
- e. The importance of using the buddy system.

Our goal is for us to celebrate and enjoy this holiday without loss of life or serious injuries

Col. Peter M. Champagne



As you take the time to reflect during this holiday tribute, we should remember the words of Senator Robert F. Kennedy in his statement on Martin Luther King's assassination, "Martin Luther King dedicated his life to love and to justice for his fellow human beings... we've had difficult times in the past; we will have difficult times in the future...Let us dedicate ourselves to tame the savageness of man and make gentle the life of this world."

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

From the NCO Induction Day PT Session

"In Cadence"

Newly promoted sergeants conducted a demanding PT session which concluded with Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Sampson leading the troops in a "Flutter Kick" marathon.

Photo by Pfc. Alex Licea



Leadership, mentoring, and plenty of stairs

By Pfc. Alex Licea



Photo by Pfc. Alex Licea

Col. Peter M. Champagne leads the formation during the early-morning run. The 10 kilometer run kicked off Captain's Day.

It was another cold winter morning in Seoul as officers from the 8th Military Police Brigade prepared themselves for leadership development physical fitness training. With reflected vest strapped on tight and running shoes double-knotted, the company-grade officers took a deep breath, quickly stretched and prepared to run. However, the route was unknown. It was to be a deliberate test of intestinal fortitude – forcing each participant to push themselves in what was guaranteed to be fast, hard, and motivating.

For many officers one thing was sure: “Watchdog Six” was leading the run and they’d better hold on. This then started the Brigade’s Commander’s officer PT session, officially kicking off Captain’s Day on Jan 8th at Yongsan, Garrison.

The event brought together captains from across the peninsula for a day of camaraderie, physical fitness and leadership development.

Training began even before the sun came up, marked by what turned out to be a challenging 10 kilometer run up Namsan Mountain led by Col. Peter M. Champagne, 8th MP Bde commander, that included running up the steps to the tower.

“I didn’t know what we were doing for PT during that day,” said Capt. Jason Monterio, 94th Military Police Battalion.

After reaching the top, the officers had a chance to

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Photo by Pfc. Alex Licea

Officers climb the stairs of Seoul Tower during the hike up to one the city’s most famous landmarks



Photo by Pfc. Alex Licea

Officers come together to sing the “Watchdog” song at the top of the Namsan the site of Seoul Tower

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cool down, enjoy their accomplishment and then sing the "Watchdog" song.

Following the physical fitness portion of the day, officers then moved to the Hartell House Annex where they participated in a leadership development seminar. During the seminar, Champagne, a 26-year military veteran, used many examples from his previous experiences as well as lessons learned from the book "Leading at the Edge: Leadership Lessons from the Extraordinary Saga of Shackleton's Antarctic Expedition"

The book, which was written by Dennis N.T. Perkins, speaks about the adventures, challenges, and leadership techniques of Sir Ernest Shackleton as he led an expedition to the frigid continent of Antarctica. Perkins, a graduate of the United States Naval Academy and veteran of the Vietnam War, details how Shackleton successfully led his crew through numerous life-threatening situations after nearly two years of isolation in one of the harshest places on earth.

Shackleton's expedition is truly an example of extraordinary leadership. Leading at the Edge is a critical analysis of this



Photo by Cpl. Min, Kyung-nam

Officers pose in front of the Hartell House Annex during the day's officer professional development class

adventure, structured around 10 distinct leadership strategies that Shackleton used in order to keep himself, and his crew alive. Champagne used these 10 strategies to give each captain a better perspective on how to be an effective leader as they move along in their military career.

The class was set-up in an open-discussion format in which every participant had the opportunity to ask questions and share past experiences.

"The single biggest point I took away from the Shackleton OPD was the importance of the proper perspective of a leader,"

said Capt. Elizabeth M. McNamara, Headquarters and Headquarters Company training officer. "Shackleton had the ability to maintain some humor among his men under the direst of circumstances meanwhile, ensuring that they stayed the course until mission was complete."

After the seminar closed, the event was followed with officers enjoyed an evening of camaraderie and good company. The event marked one of the most important aspects of effective leadership and unit performance: team building and professional development.

CULTURAL NOTE: Did you Know ...

That there is an Korean proverb that states "Even without legs, a word can travel 1000 miles." The meaning behind that statement is that word of mouth or gossip quickly spreads.

New Soldiers

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SPC	STABLER, MARK	31B	55/94TH
SFC	SIMS, DONALD	31B	HHC
SPC	DAVIS, STEPHANIE	31B	HHD/94TH
SGT	BISCHOF, JOSEPH	31B	188/728TH
CPT	PONKO, DEBRA	31Z	HHD/94TH
SPC	BISHOP, KEITH	31B	57/728TH
SSG	HARPER, WILLIAM	31B	188/728TH
SGT	BUTLER, SHANNON	31B	57/728TH
SPC	RUSSELL, RUSTY	31B	142/94TH
SSG	WILLIAMS, RASHIDA	31B	57/728TH
SSG	PETTIS, KENNETH	31B	552/728TH
SSG	GILLELAND, RICHARD	31B	188/728TH
SFC	BYRUM, RICHARD	31B	552/728TH
SGT	HILLS, MICHAEL	31B	552/728TH
SPC	SOUFFRAQNT, ADRIAN	31B	55/94TH
SPC	HICKS, ALFRED	92A	HHD/94TH
CPT	SANDERS MICHAEL J	21Z	HHD/94TH
PFC	ANDERSON CHRISTOPHER	31B	57/728TH
SPC	RIVERA MIGUEL A JR	31B	57/728TH
SPC	ROTH DAVID	31B	57/728TH
SPC	SMALLS DENEE N	31B	NARC
CPT	BILBO JOSEPH C	31Z	HHD/728TH
SSG	ORTIZLAWAS MILDA P	88N	HHC
SPC	ROBERTS JASON	92F	HHD/94TH
PFC	POWERS, PAUL	91W	57/728TH

